Longacre's Ledger

The Journal of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collector's Society

Vol. 12.3; Issue #53 **WWW.FLYINCLUB.ORG** September 2002



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August 1999—realized $51,750.



The Rarities Sale
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The Rarities Sale
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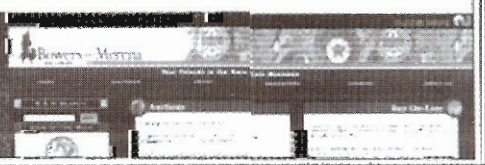
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The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society

Our mission is to gather and disseminate information related to James B. Longacre (1794-1869), with emphasis on his work as Chief Engraver of the Mint (1844 -1869) with a primary focus on his Flying Eagle and Indian Cent coinage.

Founded 1991

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Please help the editor in updating any errors or changes. If you would like to become a state representative (there can be more than one per state) please contact the editor.

On the cover...

Major die failures and interesting die anomalies are gaining support as collectable varieties. The 1864 No L here shows a bisecting die crack which is very unusual. The 1892 is the "Scarface" variety which is was first presented in Longacre's Ledger in 1998, but was not submitted for attribution until now. See "Something new" page 22.

Image by Rick Snow.

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Submission guidelines

If you have a substantive article you would like to contribute, please follow these guidelines:

- √ If you have internet access, you can send text to the editor's E-mail address below. Unformatted text or MS word preferred.
- √ You may also send files and images on a 3.5" PC-formated disk or CD-W disk to the Editors address below.
- √ Hard copies of the article and pictures may also be submitted.
- √ Images of materials can be made by the editor for use in the Journal. Please include the necessary return postage with the submission.
- √ Please feel free to contact the editor if you have any questions.

Submission deadlines

Please submit all articles, letters, columns, press releases, advertisements no later than the following dates to assure inclusion.

Issue	Deadline	Issue date
#54 2002 Vol. 12.4	November 15, 2002	December 2002
#55 2003 Vol. 13.1	February 15, 2003 .	March 2003
#56 2003 Vol. 13.2	May 15, 2003	June 2003
#57 2002 Vol. 13.3	August 15, 2003	September 2003

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Presidents Letter
Chris Pilliod



This is my 11th letter as president. Well, our summer vacation in Michigan convinced me of my boy's passion for fishing. So I decided rather than to let all the nightcrawlers go I would see if they could make the trip through the hot summer heat from Michigan back home to Reading, Pennsylvania. With the help of a nice crawler crib and some ice cubes they did just fine, and they have helped land a few bluegill out of Blue Marsh Lake near our home. It's a gorgeous man-made lake but the fishing sure isn't as good as Michigan. We did see the largest snapping turtle of our lives however.

In late July I took a sweltering day off to drive my Ford Ranger to Virginia to pack all the back-issues of the Ledgers that John Smith had taken care of as secretary. His wife and son were there to help wedge all the boxes in the back and after a nice glass of ice water I headed off to Baltimore to drop them off at Sheldon Freed's residence. On the way there I made a stop in Chancellorsville,VA to visit a Civil War battle-ground and stood on the spot where Stonewall Jackson was shot. I believe his words were "You've shot the wrong man!".

The following week was the ANA Show in New York City. This year's ANA was really a long affair as the pre-ANA and ANA spanned nine days, with auctions seemingly going on all the time. Being just 130 miles away I actually made two trips of it and was able go back to work in the middle of the week. Although a stretch, I was able to purchase two nice error coins at auction for my collection but other than that strong prices realized precluded any other significant additions to my collection. It seemed like I met three or four collectors claiming to be the underbidder on the 1933 St. Gauden's $20 Gold piece... must have been the joke of the week.

The Show and auctions were scattered over several different floors and being in mid-town Manhattan everything was congested and "hustle-bustle" and not as smoothly organized as other ANA's-I doubt they will return there. Besides a pastrami sandwich and a small Coke was $13. Ten people attended the Fly-In Club meeting on Friday, August 2nd at the Marriott Marquis Convention Center. In Vern Sebby's absence I updated the gathering on Club news. We currently have 371 members amongst our ranks. Last year's renewal rate was very high (perhaps the highest of all time) and in addition this year through August we have taken in nearly 50 new members, which is about a normal 12-month period. We will keep the membership dues the same for 2003, $20 for one year and $35 for two years. We decided to declare certain numismatic organizations pro bono recipients of the Ledger, including the ANA, Coin World, and Numismatic News. Interested parties will now be able to receive a complimentary back issue as a trial when contacting Sheldon Freed. The Best Article Award for 2001 and 2002 will be presented at next year's ANA in Baltimore. The winner for each year will receive $100.

Although no formal presentation was made, a group discussion on Indian cent counterfeits was held. Many examples were passed around with at least two very deceiving pieces. In fact one high-grade 1869 example had many perplexed and no consensus was reached. I have performed some metallurgical analysis on the piece and hopefully an article will be forthcoming.

The market for choice pieces of Indian cents and Flying Eagles as well as all denominations is very strong right now.

Club articles. If you need photography for an article you are working on, please contact Ken Hill. He has volunteered to do photography as long as they will be used for an article in the Ledger. He may be reached at:

Ken Hill
P.O. Box 18943
Seattle, WA 98118-0943

The club will pick up the costs other than your postal fees to get the coins to Ken. Ken is an original member who is retired in Seattle and has perfected his skills as a photographer. His prints are professional quality, as good if not better than the major auction houses.

If you would like to share any thoughts, my e-mail address is: pilliod@enter.net

Joseph P. Gorrell Collection to be sold at F.U.N.

The most outstanding collection of Flying Eagle and Indian cents to ever cross the auction block will be sold by Heritage at the F.U.N. Show, January 9, 2003.

The collection boasts many superlatives including:

Finest and pop. 1 for type!
- Flying Eagle - 1858 LL MS67 PCGS
- CN Indian - 1861 MS68 PCGS
- Bronze Indian Cent - 1899 MS68RD PCGS

Finest and pop. 1 for date.
- 1856 S-3 MS66 PCGS
 (the other in the population is an S-5)
- 1861 PR66 PCGS
- 1883 PR67RD PCGS
- 1886 Type 2 PR66RD PCGS

Tied for finest graded for date.
- 1857 PR65 PCGS
- 1858 LL PR65 PCGS
- 1858 SL PR65 PCGS
- 1864 With L MS66RD PCGS
- 1865 MS66RD PCGS
- 1877 MS66RD PCGS
- 1888 PR66RD PCGS
- 1889 PR66RD PCGS
- 1898 PR67RD PCGS
- 1903 PR67RD PCGS

The collection includes the very rare 1864 With L proof in PR64RB PCGS. In addition to the MS66 Snow-3 1856 Flying Eagle, the Gorrell collection contains a PR65 Snow-5, believed to be the original proof striking and the "common" Snow-9, also in PR65 PCGS. A doubled LIBERTY graded MS64BN is also found in the collection.

As one of the main suppliers of coins to the collection, Rick Snow, owner of Eagle Eye Rare Coins was enlisted to help write the catalog for Heritage.

Mr. Gorrell is a member of the Fly-In Club. Below is list of the coins.

The Gorrell Collection - Flying Eagle Cents

2013	1856 Snow-3	MS66	PCGS
2016	1857	MS65	PCGS
2019	1858	MS67	PCGS
2019	1858	MS65	PCGS
2022	1858/7 Snow-1	MS64	PCGS
2022	1858/7 Snow-1	MS63	PCGS
2037	1856 Snow-5	PR65	PCGS
2037	1856 Snow-9	PR65	PCGS
2040	1857	PR65	PCGS
2042	1858 Large Letter	PR65	PCGS
2043	1858 Small Letter	PR65	PCGS

The Gorrell collection - MS Indian Cents

2052	1859		MS65	PCGS
2058	1860	Pointed Bust	MS65	PCGS
2058	1860		MS66	PCGS
2061	1861		MS68	PCGS
2064	1862		MS66	PCGS
2067	1863		MS65	PCGS
2070	1864	CN	MS66	PCGS
2078	1864	No L	MS66RD	PCGS
2081	1864	With L	MS66RD	PCGS
2084	1865		MS65RD	NGC
2084	1865		MS66RD	PCGS
2087	1866		MS65RD	NGC
2090	1867		MS65RD	PCGS
2093	1868		MS65RD	NGC
2096	1869		MS65RD	PCGS
2099	1870		MS66RD	PCGS
2102	1871		MS65RD	PCGS
2105	1872		MS65RD	PCGS
2108	1873	Open 3	MS65RD	PCGS
2111	1873	Closed 3	MS66RD	PCGS
2115	1873	Double LIB	MS64BN	NGC
2120	1874		MS65RD	NGC
2123	1875		MS65RD	PCGS
2126	1876		MS65RD	NGC
2129	1877		MS66RD	PCGS
2132	1878		MS65RD	NGC
2135	1879		MS65RD	PCGS
2138	1880		MS66RD	PCGS
2141	1881		MS65RD	PCGS
2144	1882		MS65RD	PCGS
2147	1883		MS65RD	PCGS
2150	1884		MS65RD	PCGS
2153	1885		MS65RD	PCGS
2156	1886	Type 1	MS65RD	PCGS
2156	1886	Type 2	MS65RD	NGC
2159	1887		MS65RD	NGC
2168	1888		MS65RD	PCGS
2174	1889		MS65RD	NGC
2177	1890		MS65RD	PCGS
2180	1891		MS65RD	PCGS
2183	1892		MS65RD	PCGS
2186	1893		MS65RD	PCGS
2189	1894		MS65RD	PCGS
2192	1895		MS65RD	PCGS
2195	1896		MS65RD	PCGS
2198	1897		MS65RD	PCGS
2201	1898		MS66RD	PCGS
2204	1899		MS68RD	PCGS
2207	1900		MS66RD	PCGS
2210	1901		MS65RD	PCGS
2213	1902		MS66RD	NGC
2216	1903		MS66RD	NGC
2219	1904		MS65RD	PCGS
2222	1905		MS66RD	NGC
2225	1906		MS65RD	PCGS
2228	1907		MS65RD	PCGS
2231	1908		MS65RD	PCGS
2234	1908-S		MS65RD	PCGS
2237	1909		MS65RD	PCGS
2240	1909-S		MS65RD	PCGS

The Gorrell Collection - Proof Indian Cents

2247	1859		PR66	NGC
2253	1860		PR65	PCGS
2256	1861		PR66	PCGS
2256	1861		PR65	NGC
2259	1862		PR66	PCGS
2262	1863		PR66	PCGS
2265	1864	CN	PR66	PCGS
2278	1864	No L	PR65RD	PCGS
2280	1864	With L	PR64RB	PCGS
2284	1865		PR65RD	PCGS
2287	1866		PR65RD	PCGS
2290	1867		PR65RD	PCGS
2293	1868		PR65RD	PCGS
2296	1869		PR65RD	PCGS
2299	1870		PR65RD	PCGS
2302	1871		PR65RD	PCGS
2305	1872		PR65RD	PCGS
2308	1873		PR66RD	PCGS
2311	1874		PR65RD	PCGS
2314	1875		PR65RD	NGC
2317	1876		PR65RD	PCGS
2320	1877		PR66RD	NGC
2323	1878		PR65RD	PCGS
2326	1879		PR65RD	PCGS
2329	1880		PR65RD	PCGS
2332	1881		PR66RD	PCGS
2335	1882		PR65RD	PCGS
2338	1883		PR67RD	PCGS
2341	1884		PR65RD	PCGS
2344	1885		PR65RD	PCGS
2347	1886	Type 1	PR66RD	PCGS
92347	1886	Type 2	PR66RD	PCGS
2349	1887		PR65RB	PCGS
2350	1887		PR65RD	PCGS
2353	1888		PR66RD	PCGS
2356	1889		PR66RD	PCGS
2359	1890		PR65RD	PCGS
2362	1891		PR65RD	PCGS
2365	1892		PR65RD	PCGS
2368	1893		PR65RD	PCGS
2371	1894		PR65RD	PCGS
2374	1895		PR66RD	PCGS
2377	1896		PR65RD	PCGS
2380	1897		PR66RD	PCGS
2383	1898		PR67RD	PCGS
2386	1899		PR66RD	PCGS
2388	1900		PR65RB	PCGS
2392	1901		PR66RD	PCGS
2395	1902		PR66RD	PCGS
2398	1903		PR67RD	PCGS
2401	1904		PR65RD	PCGS
2404	1905		PR66RD	PCGS
2407	1906		PR65RD	PCGS
2410	1907		PR66RD	PCGS
2413	1908		PR65RD	PCGS
2416	1909		PR65RD	PCGS

Larry Steve collection on display at F.U. N.

The best of the incomparable Larry R. Steve collection will be on display at the F.U.N. show in Orlando, FL January 9 -12 2003 at the Eagle Eye Rare Coins table.

Larry Steve is cofounder of the Fly-In Club and has amassed a broad collection of 700+ varieties in the highest condition possible. Larry's set contains a nearly complete collection of 1857 Flying Eagles (Snow-1 through S-16) including the finest known $20 clashed die, finest known 25¢ clashed die and quite possibly the finest 50¢ clashed die.

The 1859 varieties are complete with many finest knowns. The 1860 through 1864 CN dates include all the major varieties, many are finest known. The 1864 With L's are essentially complete in MS grades, many are finest known and are plate coins in the various references.

The 1865's are impressive. Larry's 1865 DDR is the only red example known. The collection boasts 13 different varieties in MS grades for 1866 alone! The dates 1867 to 1876 are well represented in high grades with numerous interesting pieces.

The later dates have been bought with an eye for quality, die state and availability. Many of the top varieties in MS grades are represented.

The Indian Cent variety market is in its infancy. No one has assembled a complete collection in any grade. Larry's set is an attempt to do so in high grade. A task greater than the assembling of any of the sets at the recent PCGS showdown at Long Beach, or in any of the recent or pending auctions.

Larry plans on showing about 100 of the best coins at the show.



Paul Houck courtesy Expos Unlimited

1900 MS-67RD PCGS
from the Stewart Blay Collection

The 1864 No L with Lathe Lines

The answer to Whatizzit, Anyway? #3

By Rick Snow

The winner of the "Whatizit" #3 is.... Duh-ta-duh:

Joe Gorrell

Joe answered first and correctly that the coin is dated 1864. The coin is a 1864 No L with concentric die lines and by popular request will be given a listing in the attribution guide. It will be listed as 1864 No L S-11. The die diagnostics can be found under "Something New", Page 23.

The coin was first published in Dave Bowers' "Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents", pages 64-66, under a discussion regarding die production. The point under discussion was at what point the LIBERTY was added to the headband. A letter from Larry Steve stated that he believes that the LIBERTY was present of the original model because its placement did not change throughout the series. Dave Bowers concurred on Larry's thoughts.

Reknowned researcher, Craig Sholley, furnished a specimen of the 1864 No L with lathe lines and weighed into the discussion in the Bowers book. He said that the lathe lines on this coin prove that the LIBERTY was not punched into the master die. The fine lines on his specimen showed that in addition to the bold lines within the letters of the LIBERTY, there could be seen fine lines on top of the letters, specifically the lower right serif of the I and the upper left serif of the E. Dave wrote that to his eyes a better specimen should be presented to see the minute lines that Mr. Sholley was describing.

The example pictured here is that better specimen. On this example you can also see the lines on top of the B as well.

Personally, I don't see how just one die which shows these lines could possibly answer a question regarding the master die - the mother die from which all the hubs are raised.

What is this variety? This question would, I hope would be answered by someone in the membership. So here are some of the responses:

Mark Baumgart, Ken Kiehn and Tim Larson thought that these raised arcs are from the portrait lathe used to create the master hub as stated in the Bowers book by Craig Sholley.

Tim Glovola and Quent Hansen thought that it was answer 2: The die was made from a direct transfer from the model.

Dallas Hall thought that the answer was #4: The die was polished too roughly.

Larry Terneus and Jim Lee thought that the answer was #3: die scoring from being turned improperly.

No one thought the answer was #1, this is a tough crowd to fool.



Fly-In Club image Library

1864 No L S11 Lathe lines in LIBE.



Fly-In Club image Library

1864 No L S11 Lathe lines on portrait.

Steve Salembene wrote: *"If I am not mistaken, this is an 1864 cent with Lathe lines taken from the Larry Steve collection. These lines remain from the lathe cutting of die steel remaining after the hubbing process. Any coins showing this would be a very early die state. I've seen this on 1864, 1865 Skullcap variety (in pictures only) and 1866 S-1. Are there any others? If a die marker is unique to a specific die, then it is a die variety. Eventually, we will have to attribute every die. If the 1865 qualifies as a variety, then the 64 does also."*

ps Larry and I have explored this subject at length.



FE-In Club image Library

1864 No L S11 Obverse Lathe Lines.

Robert Brown wrote:

"Regarding the circular lines on the 1864 bronze cent, I offer the following:

The cause, without doubt, is the work of the same aliens that create the crop-circles in Great Britain!

Seriously, here are some questions and thoughts. Also, I have never examined the variety (yes, I think it should be considered a variety) in person.

Are the lines overlapping circles, concentric circles, or spiral? Are the lines raked or tapered, flat, same height and width? Are they only on the portrait? [Concentric, tapered and only on the portrait, ed.]

If they are artifacts from the transfer-process from the model, are they from raised lines on a hub or incuse lines on a die? I understand the reduction lathe could be used to trace the model either way. [Transfer to a hub is unlikely, ed.]

Could there be any connection with the change from copper-nickel to bronze for this year? [These exist on other dates, 1865 and on other series, ed.]

Has this die been identified in a later state without the lines? [Late die states shows the lines much more mushy, ed.]

Here's a theory:

It seems to me that if these lines were on a master-hub/ die this variety would be quite common unless the lines would disappear after only one or two transfers. Assuming they would not disappear after a transfer or two I propose this:

A working-die wasn't hubbed properly. Rather than re-hubbing (perhaps as an experiment), the die was annealed and then placed in the portrait-lathe to bring out the missing detail in the portrait. Since it was a working-die and was to be returned to the coining-press, used to stamp coins only, it wasn't finished with the same attention to detail as a master-hub or master-die, thus leaving the lines.

Maybe the scenario was similar, but as it would apply to a working-hub instead of a working-die as mentioned above.

Or, perhaps what I have proposed is not possible at all in either scenario. It's all I can come up with based on my limited knowledge at present. I will continue to think about this and if I have any more thoughts or questions I will pass them along for what it's worth."

This well thought out response really boils the questions down. It seems plausible that the scoring was done to the die and was probably not transferred from a hub which would have had to have been either engraved on the transfer lathe or transferred from a master die with the lines, which Robert Brown correctly reasoned was unlikely. A hub would have these lines raised like the finished coin. These lines could have been easily polished down off the hub if it was deemed necessary.

There are no areas where the groves show filling in as would probably happen if the blank die or a partially hubbed die had scoring from being turned improperly.

Many of the dies for the No L bronze pieces are leftover from the CN production. Early die state No L's are very scarce. This could have been a partially hubbed die or a die which was unsound in some other way. It may have been expedient to re-engrave the design into this working die to bring out the design. Any lines into the die would be very difficult to smooth out, so they were left in.

What do you think? I would like to have someone in the club work up a detailed article about this coin.

The Showdown!
By Rick Snow

The Registry

Who has the finest set of Indian Cents? I know of five collectors who could claim that theirs is the finest set intact today. The thing is, only one set can actually be ***The Finest.*** In the past few years PCGS and NGC have added set registries to their web sites. Now the claim of the finest set is listed with mathamatical precision. Collector's willing to post their sets vie for top honors and are ranked by the average grade of the coins in their sets.

Currently, the PCGS site lists the top five sets of all time and the currently listed sets. These are listed below. Suffice to say that many of the collections that I would have named as the finest five sets are not listed here.

One of the collectors with one of the top collections, Fly-In Club member Stewart Blay challenged the registry as being too mathematical to determine the finest set. Coins are works of art and comparing top collections by averaging numerical grade would be like ranking top art museums by the quantity of high priced pictures they own, not on the quality of their selection process. By averaging the grades and ranking the averages, a MS66RD 1909 Indian Cent has the same impact on the average as a MS66RD 1877 would. This has already created an imbalance in demand for high grades over rare dates. We are seeing unbelievable prices at auction for high grade common coins in all modern issue series.

The small project begun by PCGS has become a market mover.

All Time finest, Circulation Strikes

Collection	Grade Points	% Complete	%RD	Set Rating
1 Dr. Alan L. Epstein Collection	66.29	100 %	100%	66.29
2 Stewart Blay Collection	66.07	100 %	100%	66.07
3 The Ally Collection of Indian Cents	65.58	100 %	100%	65.58
4 John Kamauff Set assembled by Angel Dee's	65.31	100 %	100%	65.31
5 Richard	65.27	100 %	100%	65.27

Current Finest, Circulation strikes

Collection	Grade Points	% Complete	%RD	Set Rating
1 Stewart Blay Collection	66.07	100 %	100%	66.07
2 The Ally Collection of Indian Cents	65.58	100%	100%	65.58
3 Richard	65.27	100%	100%	65.27
4 Judge Mansfield Collection	65.09	100%	39%	65.09
5 Gibbs Collection	64.00	98%	9%	62.84
5 The Riverside Collection	64.00	98%	15%	62.84

All Time Finest, Proof strikes

Collection	Grade Points	% Complete	%RD	Set Rating
1 Newmismatist 1CN Indian Proof Set	65.42	100 %	35%	65.42
2 Richard	65.23	100 %	100%	65.23
3 Wm Walser	64.92	100 %	50%	64.92
4 Indian Cents Too	64.60	90 %	48%	58.39
5 Kert Phillips	65.12	65 %	87%	42.58

Current Finest, Proof strikes

Collection	Grade Points	% Complete	%RD	Set Rating
1 Newmismatist 1CN Indian Proof Set	65.42	100%	35%	65.42
2 Richard	65.23	100%	100%	65.23
3 Wm Walser	64.92	100%	50%	64.92
4 Indian Cents Too	64.60	90%	48%	58.39
5 Kert Phillips	65.12	65%	87%	42.58

Seeing this unwarranted shift in the market, PCGS decided to ad weights to the registry. This way a collector is awarded more points for a tough date over a commoner date. An 1877 Indian Cent is weighted as a 10 and a 1909 is weighted as a 1. This way a MS65RD 1877 is equal to a set of 1900-1909 in MS65RD. Still not perfect, but it's better than what was done initially. This author submitted recommendations for the weights which are presently used, although the final decisions are made by the "weightmeister", PCGS founder David Hall.

Another problem is the lack of weighting for full Reds over Red-Browns and Browns. The owner of the "Richard" collection of proofs is peeved that a collection comprising only 35% Red coins beats out his full Red collection. PCGS is weighting the color as well, but currently they are giving a Red coins a 2 weight, Red-Browns a 1 weight and Browns a 0 weight. I was not asked to submit recommendations, and I think this is still a work in progress. Clearly a full red 1886 Type 2 Indian cent is worth more than twice a Red-Brown.

In the process of putting together the list of coins in a "Basic" Indian Cent collection, PCGS may again alter collector's buying habits. By omitting coins typically collected as part of the basic set collectors may determine that these coins are not needed in their collections either, freeing up additional resources for other coins in the set. To all collectors of Indian Cents, a typical "basic" set contains the following coins presently omitted from the PCGS list:

1860 Pointed Bust
1865 Plain 5
1873 Closed 3
1886 Type 2

In an extensive volley of E-Mails messages with David Hall, I learned that he does not think that the design changes made during 1860 and 1886 are as important to collectors as other design changes in other series like the changes in the first years of the Shield, Liberty and Buffalo Nickels and Standing Liberty Quarters. The date modifications made in 1865 and 1873 are likewise given lower status by Mr. Hall. I was successful in getting him to allow the 1864 With L into the list. Modifications may still be possible with extensive collector support.

Please visit the PCGS registry web site at:

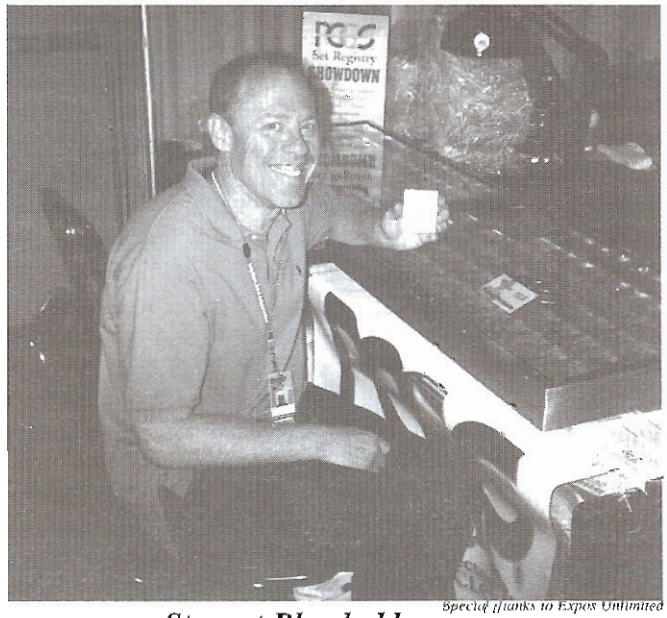
www.pcgs.com/new_set_registry/news.chtml

The manager of the registry section, B. J. Searls welcomes any ideas to make the registry as useful as possible.

The Challenge

Stewart Blay is widely recognized as the owner of the Finest Lincoln Cent Collection. His Indian Cent collection has only recently been completed, and ranks in the PCGS registry as finer than the once top ranked "Ally" collection. The "Ally" collection is owned by the same person who assembled the "Joshua" collection of Proof Indian Cents which was described in the March 2001 Longacre's Ledger.

Not content to win by an average of grades, Stewart wanted to promote the quality of the coins in his collection, so he petitioned B.J. and David at PCGS to display his collection alongside two other top ranked Indian cents collections, The "Ally" and "Richard" Collections at the September Long Beach, CA show. This showdown was to be the coming out party for high grade Indian cents. Never has so many gem Indian cents been on display at one time.



Special thanks to Expos Unlimited

Stewart Blay holds a gem.



Paul Houck, courtesy Expos Unlimited

1888 MS-66RD PCGS
From the "Ally" Collection

Stewart Blay comments:

This is THE mint state collection of Indian Cents that will be appearing at the "SHOWDOWN" for the Long Beach coin and collectible show from September 25-28 2002 All the coins in this set from 1859 through 1865 as well as 1875 through 1909s grade ms66 red or better. This set boasts the finest example of an 1877 Indian cent seen !!! period. It is presently undergraded in an ms66 red holder. It has frost so thick and luster so gold and attractive, I call her the "Golden Princess"

"Ally" comments:

This collection is a high grade set of Indian Head Cents that has all of its bronze coins in full red. Highlights include the 1860 in MS-67, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1908-S and 1909-S in MS-66 RD.

PCGS Comments:

It was not enough for Richard to put together a Proof Indian cent collection, though that seems like a very ambitious task in itself. Richard went one better—a completely Mint State Indian Cent set collection all in red. His key dates are strong, to address the difficult to find 1867-1873 coins. Among his collection are many coins which share finest known distinctions. Also an 1896 in 65RD with only one graded higher. Richard continues to upgrade his set. Though he limits himself to only red coins, you can count on a higher average grade the next time around.

		Stewart Blay Collection **Grade Points:** 66.07			**"Ally" Collection** **Grade Points:** 65.58			**"Richard" Collection** **Grade Points:** 65.27		
PCGS #	Date	Grade	Pop.	Better	Grade	Pop.	Better	Grade	Pop.	Better
2052	1859	MS66	10	0	MS65	90	10	MS65	90	10
2058	1860	MS67	7	0	MS67	7	0	MS66	25	7
2061	1861	MS66	37	9	MS66	36	9	MS66	36	9
2064	1862	MS67	6	0	MS66	40	6	MS66	40	6
2067	1863	MS66	20	0	MS66	20	0	MS65	101	20
2070	1864 CN	MS66	6	1	MS65	50	7	MS65	50	7
2078	1864 No L	MS67RD	1	0	MS66RD	27	1	MS66RD	27	1
2081	1864 With L	MS66RD	3	0	MS65RD	28	3	MS65RD	28	3
2084	1865 Fancy 5	MS66RD	10	0	MS66RD	10	0	MS65RD	37	10
2087	1866	MS65RD	15	3	MS65RD	15	3	MS65RD	15	3
2090	1867	MS65RD	13	1	MS64RD	53	14	MS65RD	13	1
2093	1868	MS65RD	18	2	MS65RD	18	2	MS65RD	18	2
2096	1869	MS65RD	24	6	MS65RD	24	6	MS65RD	24	6
2099	1870	MS65RD	27	4	MS66RD	4	0	MS65RD	27	4
2102	1871	MS65RD	15	2	MS66RD	2	0	MS64RD	20	17
2105	1872	MS65RD	10	2	MS66RD	2	0	MS65RD	10	2
2108	1873 Open 3	MS65RD	18	3	MS64RD	41	21	MS65RD	18	3
2120	1874	MS65RD	23	5	MS65RD	23	5	MS65RD	23	5
2123	1875	MS66RD	6	0	MS66RD	6	0	MS65RD	28	6
2126	1876	MS67RD	1	0	MS66RD	11	1	MS65RD	27	12
2129	1877	MS66RD	6	0	MS65RD	19	6	MS65RD	19	6
2132	1878	MS67RD	1	0	MS65RD	41	8	MS65RD	41	8
2135	1879	MS66RD	10	2	MS65RD	44	12	MS65RD	44	12
2138	1880	MS66RD	15	1	MS66RD	15	1	MS65RD	45	16
2141	1881	MS66RD	18	3	MS66RD	18	3	MS66RD	18	3
2144	1882	MS66RD	18	2	MS66RD	18	2	MS66RD	18	2
2147	1883	MS67RD	7	0	MS65RD	51	26	MS66RD	19	7
2150	1884	MS67RD	3	0	MS66RD	10	3	MS66RD	10	3
2153	1885	MS66RD	9	0	MS66RD	9	0	MS65RD	31	9
2156	1886 Type 1	MS66RD	5	0	MS65RD	19	5	MS65RD	19	5
2159	1887	MS66RD	11	2	MS65RD	44	13	MS65RD	44	13
2168	1888	MS66RD	11	1	MS66RD	11	1	MS65RD	20	12
2174	1889	MS66RD	5	0	MS65RD	29	5	MS65RD	29	5
2177	1890	MS66RD	6	0	MS65RD	37	6	MS65RD	37	6
2180	1891	MS66RD	5	0	MS65RD	50	5	MS66RD	5	0
2183	1892	MS66RD	11	1	MS65RD	43	12	MS65RD	43	12
2186	1893	MS66RD	18	0	MS66RD	18	0	MS65RD	58	18
2189	1894	MS66RD	19	0	MS66RD	19	0	MS66RD	19	0
2192	1895	MS66RD	17	1	MS66RD	17	1	MS65RD	86	18
2195	1896	MS66RD	8	1	MS66RD	8	1	MS66RD	8	1
2198	1897	MS66RD	10	1	MS66RD	10	1	MS65RD	43	11
2201	1898	MS67RD	6	0	MS65RD	74	45	MS66RD	39	6
2204	1899	MS67RD	6	2	MS66RD	49	8	MS65RD	137	57
2207	1900	MS67RD	3	0	MS66RD	41	3	MS65RD	77	44
2210	1901	MS66RD	35	1	MS66RD	35	1	MS66RD	35	1
2213	1902	MS67RD	8	0	MS66RD	35	8	MS65RD	105	43
2216	1903	MS67RD	4	0	MS66RD	40	4	MS66RD	40	4
2219	1904	MS66RD	34	2	MS66RD	34	4	MS65RD	164	38
2222	1905	MS66RD	25	0	MS66RD	25	0	MS65RD	119	25
2225	1906	MS66RD	10	1	MS65RD	131	11	MS65RD	131	11
2228	1907	MS66RD	27	4	MS65RD	159	31	MS65RD	159	31
2231	1908	MS66RD	27	0	MS65RD	27	0	MS65RD	173	27
2234	1908-S	MS66RD	23	0	MS66RD	23	0	MS65RD	144	23
2237	1909	MS67RD	2	0	MS66RD	84	2	MS66RD	84	2
2240	1909-S	MS66RD	8	1	MS66RD	8	1	MS66RD	8	1

September 26, 2002

The showdown has begun!

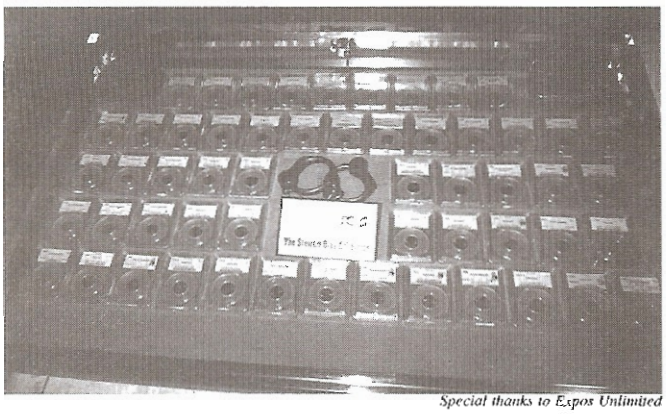
On the set up day at the Long Beach show I was able to sit down and examine one by one the three sets on display. I posted my thoughts on the PCGS web site message board.

PCGS has a great setup with cowboy stuff all around: Guns, whips, spurs, handcuffs, hay and cowboy hats. They don't need the handcuffs because these guys are TAKING NO PRISONERS!



Special thanks to Expos Unlimited

Carol Bennett and B.J. Searls of PCGS



Special thanks to Expos Unlimited

Blay Collection

These sets are awesome! I looked over all three sets and gave each coin a "Tumbs up", "Thumbs down" or "Right on" for their respective grade. It's obvious that the clear winner in "quality for the grade" is Stewart Blay. His coins are all in their original holders (not consecutively numbered or recently regraded) Because of this there are many coins that have a shot at a higher grade: 1861, 1862(!), 1863, 1877 (A WOW), 1886 T1, 1888, 1893, 1900 (!), 1905, 1908, 1908-S (Prooflike). Only about 7 coins were LQ enough to warrant buying better examples. None had any major problems like spots, weak strikes, or RB color. The 1871 is the rare shallow N. Outstanding!

The Ally collection is also outstanding and is ranked second only because of the quality of some of the tough dates in the late 1860's and early 1870's. His 1877 is right on for the grade. The CN pieces are all exceptional. Many of the 1880's are exceptional as well. The set was recently sent in to get consecutive serial numbers, and was regraded at that time. As such, it no wonder that I saw only a few possible upgrade potential coins. 1873 Open 3, 1865 Fancy 5, 1885, 1886 T1, 1887, 1888, 1890, 1894, 1898, 1899.



Special thanks to Expos Unlimited

Ally Collection



Special thanks to Expos Unlimited

Richard Collection

The Richard collection is a worthy contender and is consecutively numbered as well. A few upgrade potentials are the 1863, 1864 CN, 1865, 1875 and 1899. A few including the 1877 were a bit LQ, and hurt the overall appeal. Everyone first looks at the 1877 first and if it dissapoints, it hurts the first impression. The set is exceptional, but does need a little work. I know the owner has a good eye.

The Showdown!, continued..

Many Fly-In Club members were in attendance. Stewart Blay of course was there. Paul Houck, Fly-In webmaster took pictures and posted them on the PCGS message board, and supplied copies for this article. Dr. Tim Larson lusted over Stewart's 1877.

Stewart later showed me his Flying Eagle set which consisted of the following:

1856 Snow-3	MS-65	PCGS
1857	MS-66	PCGS
1858 LL	MS-66	PCGS
1858 SL	MS-66	PCGS
1858/7 Snow-1	MS-65	PCGS

The 1858 SL is a prooflike example from the Eliasberg pattern set.

So who won? Actually the collectors who came to look were the winners. This was the greatest showing of gem MS Indian Cents ever! The Epstein collection was great when it was shown in late 1995, but it was only one set. Larry Steve's award winning exhibit is only the varieties. Three gem sets all together at once was a unique treat!

My only regret was... they were not for sale.

The Stewart Blay
1877 Indian Cent



Paul Houck, courtesy Expos Unlimited

Stewart Blay relates:

It was September, 1997. I had just returned from Florida and was preparing to leave again for a ski trip in Utah. I had some time to kill so I went uptown to Stack's on 57th St. in New York to look at auction lots for their upcoming sale. When I got to the 1877 Indian Cent my jaw dropped and I nearly went into cardiac arrest! It was breathtakingly beautiful! The finest 1877, no - it was the finest Indian cent I'd ever seen, period. And it was uncertified!

Since I was leaving town, I left a bid of $95.000 with a friend. No doubt that would win it, since the record at the time was only $45,000.

A California collector relates:

I wanted the 1877 Indian Cent bad. It was beautiful. I had instructed my dealer to bid up to $60,000 for the coin. That was a record price and would surely get the coin. As a strategic move the dealer I gave the bid to asked another person in attendance to bid the $60,000.

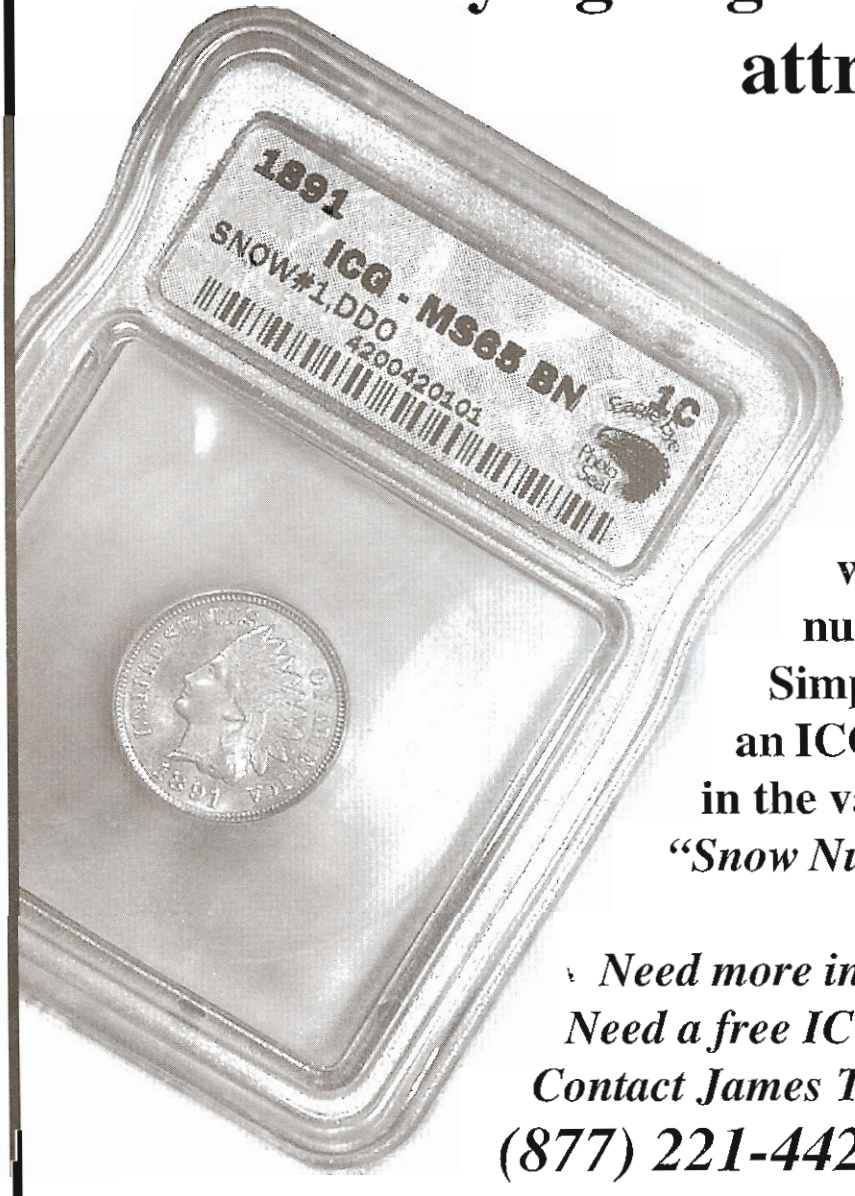
The sale:

Excitement was building up for the 1877 which everyone had agreed was immaculate! The bidding started and quickly built up to $40,000, closing in on the record. Just then one bidder shouts out $61,000! The room falls silent for what seemed like an eternity. Then the surprised auctioneer called the coin "SOLD".

As it turns out the same person was given two bids on the coin and had to execute the highest one at an increment over the lower one.

With the commission the coin sold for $67,100. News of the wonder coin spread around the numismatic market and made headlines in the coin newspapers. Who bought it? What grade did it slab? No one knew. That is, until the PCGS Showdown, when it was brought out in the Stewart Blay collection.

Rick Snow
Is now exclusively, "ICG's Official Consultant for Flying Eagle & Indian Cent attributions"



ICG is now attributing, upon request, all Flying Eagle and Indian Cents with *"Snow"* variety numbers.

Simply submit your coins on an ICG submission form and in the variety column print *"Snow Number"*

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(877) 221-4424 X203

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INDEPENDENT COIN GRADING COMPANY

7901 E. Belleview Ave. Suite 50 Englewood, CO 80111

An 1894 Indian Head Cent with Triple Error!
By Ken Hill

In 1971 the PDS (PLANCHET, DIE & STRIKING) System for classifying errors was established. There are presently over 200 classes of minting errors listed. The PDS System replaced the Major-Minor System which was difficult to use.

Planchet errors occur before the coin is struck and involve the metal disk with an upset rim. They include incomplete planchets which are commonly called "clips", laminations, unstruck blanks or planchets, defective planchets and plating errors.

Die errors, commonly known as die varieties, occur when something alters the die which then causes a change in the intended design. Die errors can be divided into two major classes. First are those that occur during the preparation of the die such as doubled dies, repunched dates or mintmarks and misplaced digits. Second are those caused by damage to the die because of wear, mechanical failure or carelessness. Some examples are die cracks, die breaks, die clashes and die scratches.

Striking errors occur during the final phase of the minting process when the planchet becomes a coin. These are usually the most spectacular errors and include off center strikes, multiple strikes, wrong metal/wrong planchet errors, indent and brockage strikes, capped dies, mules and adjustment strikes. The examples listed above are only a small fraction of the total number of errors known and for more information there are a number of excellent books on the subject.

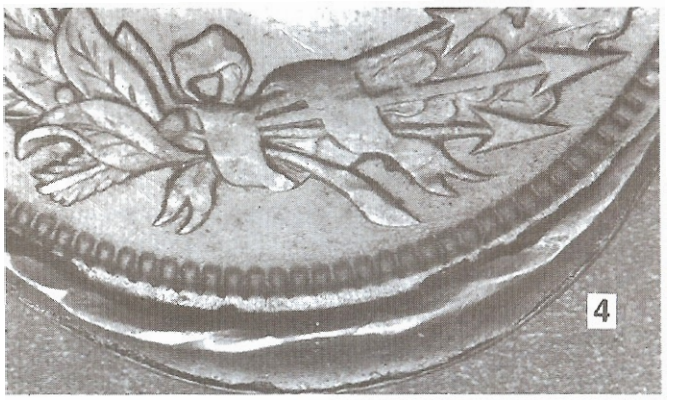


The 1894 Indian Head cent presented here comes from the collection of George Petersen of Pennsylvania. George's coin exhibits two striking errors and a die error (or variety). The most obvious striking error is called an indent and appears as the unstruck area on the coin's upper third (photo 1). An indent is caused when another planchet or blank rests on top of the one about to be struck. The missing devices are on the other planchet or blank, and if both pieces were together the error would be called a mated pair.



The second error, a tilted partial collar strike or railroad rim, is caused when the collar is not properly positioned, but the collar does contain some of the coin leaving a distinct ring around a portion of the coin's edge (photo 3).





The extra metal of the other planchet caused the outer part of the indented area to expand far beyond the collar. This is more easily seen on the reverse photos since the reverse was contained within the collar and therefore has a normal rim (photos 2 and 4). Unfortunately, it appears as if someone decided to try to even out the reverse's rim after the coin left the mint as damage can be seen from K-3 to K-7 (photos 2 and 4).

The die error on George's coin is readily recognizable to anyone who collects die varieties within the series (photo 5). This is considered by many to be the strongest repunched date in the IHC series. It is designated as Snow-1, is listed in Cherrypicker's Guide as FS # 1c 011 and is also one of only two RPDs in the IHC series listed in THE RED BOOK.

An Indian Head cent with a partial collar is scarce and one with an indent is quite rare. But when these two errors are combined with a very desirable die variety on the same coin, it is indeed very special.



The Thrill of the Find
By Stephen Witkowski

I was just 7 or 8 years old when I caught the coin-collecting bug. I still clearly remember the friendly gentleman slowly pull out several beautiful Red Cherry boxes from his old desk. He looked at me as he opened the first box. When he pulled out the first drawer my eyes instantly grew to twice their normal size. I set down the milk and dropped the cookies his wife had just served me. Inside were small compartments filled with coins - no paper holders, just little squares full of gold, silver, and copper coins- a real treasure to a young boy. Even though I had been collecting coins from pocket change since I was five I had never seen anything like these strange coins. I only knew the occasional well-worn Indian Head cent or Barber dime my grandfather gave me from his pocket change. I was mystified by the tiny silver Three Cent pieces, the big Two Cent coins, and some very small and pretty One Dollar gold coins. He let me hold any coin that I wished. I remember daydreaming about having a similar collection, something that someday would be my own private treasure.

I was visiting a friend of my father's; but after that short voyage of only thirty minutes my interest in coins would change forever. Ever since that cold rainy day over 45 years ago, finding a new coin that is unusual or "rare" is an experience that has excited me. The next experience I remember was playing with a friend. My friend's father came out to watch us shoot marbles on their backyard lawn and he asked me if I liked coins. Of course I responded "Yes!" and told him about my small collection. The man disappeared into to house and returned shortly. He opened is fist and in his hand were four or five very strange looking coins. The man said to each of us "Take one that you like". I choose a particularly interesting looking copper coin about the size of a dime. My friend's father explained that during the war he was in the infantry in Italy and had acquired some ancient Roman coins. Wow, I thought - they must be rare and valuable!

During my early teens in the 60's I would save up my allowance or some of the money I earned from mowing lawns and from my Rochester Democrat & Chronicle morning paper route. I rode my black and white Schwinn Western Flyer bicycle, peddling papers in our upstate New York village in Wyoming County - a county that had the distinction of having a larger population of Holstein dairy cattle than people. I'd take the money I'd earned and hightail it to the local bank to buy silver dollars. The bank was a magnificent old building with a beautiful marble floors and stately marble columns. The teller's cages were behind solid, well-polished brass bars. The safe was a hug, magnificent vault with a massive stainless steel door that contained several various size combination locks. I fantasized every time I was in the bank about what treasures must be securely locked away in that secretive and impenetrable room. I came to know the tellers well, and one day one of the older tellers, Mr. Carney, asked me how my collection was coming. I told him I had a lot of silver dollars (maybe 15 or 20), and a few smaller denomination silver coins, but only a couple of Indian Head cents. After trading in my accumulated savings for one or two silver dollars, the teller handed me a roll of pennies and said, "Here, this is for you, maybe it will help your Indian Head collection." The roll he gave me contained fifty Indian Head cents - I was overjoyed. Inside the roll was one fairly beat up 1864-L Indian. I had found a "rare" coin. I still have that cent, and about twenty other coins from the roll - they are all common dates and in Good to Fine condition, but very special to me.

There were no coin shops in the small town I grew up in, but my grandmother liked to go shopping on weekends in Rochester, the closest "big city". Often I would go with her so I could visit the Coin & Stamp department in Rochester's largest department store at the time— Sibley, Lindsay and Curr Co. or "Sibleys" as everybody called it. I believe the coin department was on the top floor of the store (9th or 10th) and it was always fun to ride up and down the escalator. I remember buying a few Barber silver coins, and some two cent pieces. But no matter what the purchase, the trip to Sibley's and the treasures of the coin and stamp department was an exciting experience that still bring backs pleasant memories of my youth.

Some of my other "important" finds as a child included a nice uncirculated Peace Dollar that I found in the driveway of a local church, and some excellent Buffalo nickels and Standing Liberty quarters from "collecting" day (Saturday) on my paper route. I also remember receiving a neat Barber half dollar in change from the J.J. Newberry Co. "five and dime" when I went to buy some balloons that my friends and I used for "water balloon fights" on hot summer days. I also remember trading one of my big "steely" ball bearings that boys my age used to play marbles with for a two cent piece that a friend of mine owned - a big "steely" was a prize possession that a twelve or thirteen year old wouldn't part with easily - so I guess coin collecting was in my blood. My home was only about an hour's drive from the Canadian border, and the Canadian dollar was worth about $1.04 or $1.05 then, so getting a Canadian coin in change was actually a small treasure. I remember the excitement of receiving three or four large Canadian cents in change at the local Rexall Drug Store.

Over thirty years passed between the time I stopped coin collecting after entering college and my present re-discovered passion for the hobby. Most of those early finds are just memories now, but the thrill of finding a neat coin has always been etched in my memory. In 2001 I took up the hobby again, focusing almost exclusively on Indian cents. In less than a year I have put together two complete collections, one

Fine to Extremely Fine, and one uncirculated or better. I didn't start paying attention to varieties until about three months ago, when I was near completion of my second set and looking for a new challenge. The turning point in my acquisition of varieties was the purchase of a stereo microscope. I had a large number of Fine or better Indians literally lying around the house, mostly in a plastic box that sat in my office on the same window sill that the family cat Marcus, a gigantic but very laidback Maine Coon, often uses for a his afternoon naps. I started closely examining the several hundred Indians in the box several months ago. I was surprised at how many repunched dates I found, and these early find added to my interest. My first really exciting find was the discovery that one of my favorite coins, an 1870 MS-64 RD, was a Snow-9. The doubling on the LIBERTY is fairly strong and the realization that it was a variety reinforced my determination to find additional "strange" cents.

My most interesting find so far has been an 1891 Doubled Die Reverse Snow-1 in XF/AU. I remember the evening I first examined the coin under the microscope. The amazing strength of the doubling on the "O" of "OF" and the doubling on the LIBERTY were incredibly exciting. I wasn't familiar with the variety at the time, but checked it out in The F.IND.ERS Report.



Figure 1. 1891 Snow-1



Figure 2. Doubling

Chris Pilliod and others have told me that the 1891 Snow-1 is a tough coin to find. The F.IND.ERS Report gives it a rarity of R-6 or Very Rare (13-30 known). The Snow-1 is a combination of Tilted Hub Doubling and Offset Hub Doubling. This particular hybrid doubling resulted in this extremely interesting coin that I was fortunate to find in excellent condition. I am not sure where I acquired the coin. Three possibilities exist:

* It is one of the fifty or sixty coins that I have acquired over a period of over thirty years before I actively focused on collecting Indian cents.

* The cent was purchased from a Florida dealer at this year's Baltimore coin show, along with six or seven other coins of similar grade (my first coin show).

* The coin is from one of several from "bulk" eBay purchases that I made early this year.

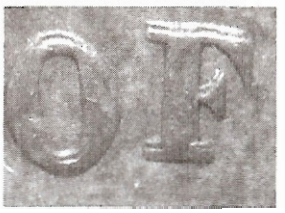


Figure 3. Doubling of the O and F in UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

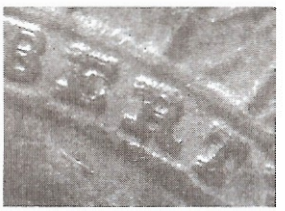


Figure 4. Doubling in the LIBERTY

Whatever the origin, it was by accident, since I was not even looking for varieties until about two months ago. For me, the most exciting part of coin collecting is the thrill of finding something rare. Additionally, there is the ever-present anticipation of looking forward to more finds in the future.

Recently on public radio there was a program devoted to collecting and why people collect. Two reasons given were; first, to relive childhood dreams and fantasies, and secondly, to deal with some childhood trauma. I have definitely been realizing my childhood dreams and fantasies through the successful addition of some very nice Indian Head cent varieties to my collection. If luck will have it, I hope to continue experiencing the "thrill of the find" for many more years.

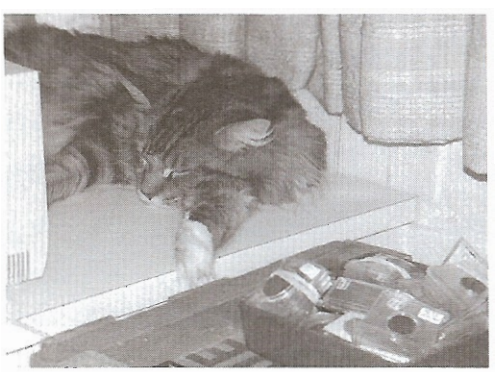


Figure 5. Marcus Near the Coin Box

The 1863 Reeded Edge Proof, J-300.
By Rick Snow.

In the March 2002 issue of Longacre's Ledger I wrote about the enigmatic 1863 reeded edge pattern in it's non-proof format. In that article I mentioned that two proof dies are known which struck three examples each. This is such a rare coin that examples hardly ever show up in the market. Because of this lack of extant example I stated that the dies were listed as high date and low date, as discussed in the Pollock pattern book. One of each die pair was sold in the Abe Kosoff sale by Bowers and Merena in 1985. From the image there it looked like the die pairs were the same as the two known proof dies.

The two known dies are easy to distiguish. The one found on most regular issue proofs has a high date and polished centers of the 8 and 6. The one found on a minority of regular issue proofs and all of the bronze pattern, J-299 has a low date and unpolished centers of the 8 and 6.

I assumed that the dies used to strike the two proof verions are the same ones that struck both of the proof 1863 Reeded Edge Indian Heads.

Recently I purchased one of these rarities and found out that the die was an unknown one. The coin is the plate coin in the Pollack book (P-361) and is from the Kossof sale. It grades PR65CAM PCGS. As discussed in the March article, the diameter is slightly larger due to the added groves in the collar. Unlike the MS version, this proof example exhibits a partial wire rim.

So, to update the information, here are some images of the coin.

Obv. 15: (LE) *High date. Date had unpolished centers, as does the A's in AMERICA. Three light raised die dots on the neck. Die striations 12:00 to 6:00 which also score the shallow area left of the ear.*
Rev. M: *Unpolished shield lines except for the far left "white" bar. Die striations 12:00 to 6:00.*



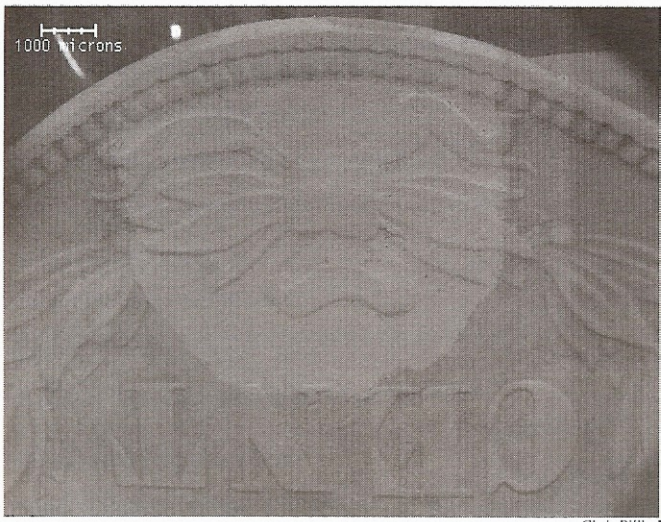
1863 Reeded Edge proof
Die dots on neck





1863 Reeded Edge Proof. Note the die striations which disappear when the light angle is changed.

Examination of an 1859 Indian Cent.
By Chris Pilliod



Chris Pilliod

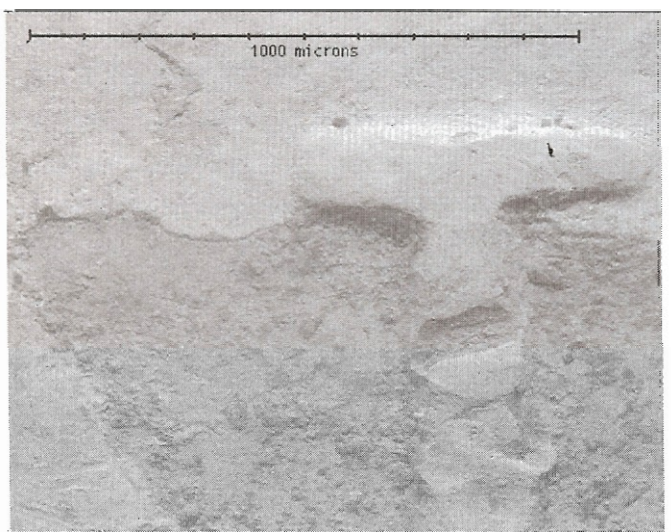
a) SEM micrograph of the "silver" colored region of the coin. (original magnification: 9.8x)

At the ANA in New York last month, error specialist Xan Chamberlain passed on to me an interesting looking 1859 Indian cent. On the reverse was a bright silvery patch, that looked like it may have been from a silver planchet, possibly a Dime or Half dime. He submitted to me for determination of the origin of a bright metallic exogenous area. It is a nice study on how metallurgists examine specimen for origin.

A Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) was utilized for high-magnification images as well as x-ray analysis of chemistry. Both the physical characteristics and the chemical composition show this area to be a soldering material.

Three scanning electron images were taken of the area as shown below. As the magnification was increased to 500x (500 times real size), the transition between the solder and the host coin is revealed as a step or a layer as shown. Had this been an actual struck-thru made during the minting process, the extreme pressure of the strike would have been mechanically forged the foreign metal to the same level as the softened host planchet.

In addition, the chemical composition of 84.54% Sn (tin) and 15.46% Pb (lead) is typical of many low melting-point soldering metals.
Tin is a very white-colored metal that is historically been used in many counterfeiting applications due to its similar color to silver and its relatively cheap cost.



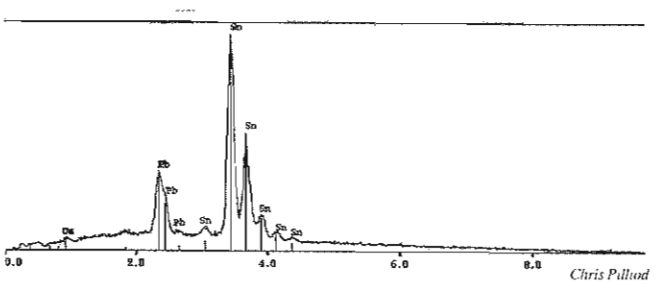
Chris Pilliod

b) SEM micrograph at the boundary of the "silver" colored region (original magnification: 100x)



Chris Pilliod

c) SEM micrograph at the boundary of the "silver" colored region (original magnification: 500x)



Chris Pilliod

d)EDXA spectrum from the "silver" colored region on the surface of the penny

Something New
By Rick Snow

Note: The S38 listed in the last jornal was dated 1870.



Fly-In Club image Library

S9 1864 No L, 86/86 (n).

S9 1864 No L, 86/86 (n).

Obv. 19: (B) *Moderate repunching visible inside the lower loops of the 8 and 6. Die clash marks in front of the forehead and between the feathers are evident on the example seen.*
Rev. AR: *Olive leaf and shield points well away from the denticles. A triangular die chip is visible below the right edge of the left foot of the N in ONE. Clash marks from Obv. 19 evident inside the right wreath and through the C in CENT. Die crack from the rim at 12:30 slightly into the field.*

Attributed to: Quent Hansen



Fly-In Club image Library

S10 1864 No L, Bisecting die crack.

S10 1864 No L, Bisecting die crack.

Obv. 20: (B) *Late die stage: A large die crack extends from the rim at 1:00 through the center of the coin to the rim at 7:00. Pronounced die wear.*
Rev. AS: *Olive leaf and shield points away from the denticles. Pronounced die wear.*

Attributed to: Michael Fey

A significant die crack similar to the 1864-L S-16. As with that variety the decision to list a die crack as a separate variety was done only after considerable questioning its collectability with Indian Cent variety collectors. There is significant enough interest, however the variety is not designated for early die state examples without the die crack should they exist.

S11 1864 No L, Lathe lines

Obv. 21: *(C) Concentric circular die lines cover most of the portrait with the focus at the center of the die. Early die states show die striations fron 11:30 to 5:30. Later dies stages show the lathe lines less pronounced.*
Rev. AT: *Olive leaf and shield points well away from the denticles.*

This could have been a partially hubbed die or a die which was unsound in some other way. It may have been expedient to re-engrave the design directly into this working die to bring out the design. Any lines into the die would be very difficult to smooth out, so they were left in.



Fly-In Club image Library

S11 1864 No L, Lathe lines

S14 1892, "Scarface", Obverse die scratches.

Obv. 16: *(RE) Numerous raised lines on the portrait and surounding field.*
Rev. P: *Olive leaf and shield points connected to the denticles.*

Attributed to: Bill Fivaz

This is a fabulous variety. It seems to be very rare, as the only example seen is the discovery coin, A MS-65RB graded by ANACS. The lines at first appear to be caused by agressive scratching of the face of the die with a pointed object such as an awl. In actuality, the lines are probably caused by a mass of small stands of fibers which got caught on the die during the hubbing process.

This variety was first described by Bill Fivaz in Longacre's Ledger, Vol. 8.1, January-March 1998, pg. 26. It was only recently that the current owner of the coin, Quent Hansen, forwarded the coin to me for photography. It's a long overdue incusion to the list.

If other examples of this variety are known, please let me know their grades.



Fly-In Club image Library

S14 1892, "Scarface", die scratches on cheek.



Fly-In Club image Library

S14 1892, "Scarface", die scratches around date.



Fly-In Club image Library

S14 1892, "Scarface", die scratches in field.



Fly-In Club image Library

S42 1906, 190/190 (s) 6/6 (n).

S42 1906, 190/190 (s) 6/6 (n).

Obv. 43: ***(RE)*** *Moderate repunching visible under the base of the 1,9 and 0. Slight repunching visible inside the bottom of the 6.*
Rev. AQ: *Right shield point connected to the denticles, left point just away. The olive leaf is well away from the denticles.*

Attributed to: John Miller



Fly-In Club image Library

S43 1906, 90/90 (n).

S43 1906, 90/90 (n).

Obv. 44: ***(LE)*** *Minor repunching visible at the base of the 9 and 0.*
Rev. AR: *Right shield point connected to the denticles, left point just away. The olive leaf is well away from the denticles.*

Attributed to: John Miller

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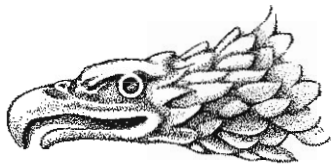
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1870 PR-64RB {PS} PCGS *25% No spots or problems. This is actually nicer than the grade assigned.* **$550.00**

1872 180 deg. Rotated Reverse PR-64RD {PS} PCGS *Labeled "Rotated Reverse" on the holder by PCGS. This is the first example of this date found with the dies in a medallic alignment. Very unusual and appealing.* **$3,200.00**

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1875 PR-64RB {PS} PCGS *15% RED. A super coin for the grade. Essentially flawless.* **$500.00**

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1882 PR-65BN {PS} PCGS *Orange peel fields. Slight purple toning.* **$350.00**

1883 PR-64RB {PS} PCGS *85% RED. Nearly full red without any problems. A great coin for the money.* **$350.00**

1884 PR-66RB {PS} PCGS *90% RED. Actually it looks full red, but a bit like a deep gold rather than the typically seen red. Really outstanding eye appeal.* **$850.00**

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1891 PR-64RB {PS} NGC *95% RED. Nearly full red. No problems.* **$300.00**

1892 PR-65RB {PS} PCGS *95% RED. Essentially full red. An extremely eye appealing gem. You get the full red look without the full red price.* **$650.00**

1892 PR-64RD PCGS *Golden red with an attractive look.* **$450.00**

1892 PR-64RB {PS} PCGS *90% RED. There is really no reason this is not a 65RB. Nearly full red and nearly gem!* **$350.00**

1892 PR-62RB {PS} PCGS *75% RED. Gold with some magenta toning. No spots.* **$150.00**

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1898 PR-64RD PCGS *Orange peel fields.* **$475.00**

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1902 PR-64BN {PS} PCGS *A dazzling deep purple toned beauty. Really gem quality.* **$400.00**

1903 PR-66RD NGC *A very attractive example with deep mirrors and orange peel fields.* **$1,600.00**

1903 PR-64RB {PS} PCGS *75% RED. Deep mirrors.* **$300.00**

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